

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Mitsuhiro SHIKIDA et al.  
Serial No.: Filed Concurrently Herewith  
International Application No.: PCT/JP2005/000633  
International Filing Date: January 13, 2005  
For: CHEMICAL ANALYTIC APPARATUS AND  
CHEMICAL ANALYTIC METHOD

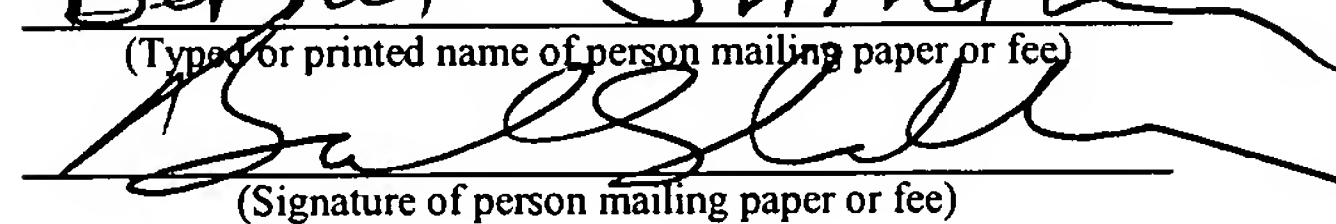
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

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Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows: